



# Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

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## **Agriculture Department obtains court order against Tacoma pest control company**

OLYMPIA – The state Department of Agriculture (WSDA) this month obtained a court order that prohibits Phillip V. Williams, owner of Premier Pest Control and Inspection Service in Tacoma, from acting as a pest control consultant or a commercial pesticide applicator until he is properly licensed.

The order, which was issued Jan. 18 by Pierce County Superior Court, prohibits Williams from performing structural pest control or wood destroying organism inspections on homes. The order also prohibits Williams from advertising his services and requires him to discontinue phone service to the business, which is featured in a display ad in the Yellow Pages.

WSDA obtained the order after complaints that Williams over-charged consumers and failed to deliver services he agreed to perform. Williams has operated in the Tacoma-Pierce County area.

WSDA enforces state and federal laws to protect people, property, and the environment against the improper use of pesticides, including those used in and around homes. The agency licenses pesticide applicators and structural pest inspectors. It also enforces the rules on structural inspections for wood destroying organisms, such as termites and carpenter ants.

To ensure that a pesticide applicator or structural pest inspector is properly licensed, or to file a complaint, call WSDA at (877) 301-4555. To see a list on the WSDA Web site of persons who have been issued a structural pest inspector license go to <http://www.wa.gov/agr/PestFert/LicensingEd/ListStructuralPestInspectors.htm>.

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